

Isaiah 5:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Analysis

Divine anger ('the anger of the LORD is kindled') manifesting in 'stretched forth' hand depicts active judgment. The imagery of corpses as refuse in streets shows death's degradation—unburied bodies denied dignity. The refrain 'his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still' (repeated in 9:12, 17, 21; 10:4) emphasizes unrelenting judgment until repentance occurs. This sustained divine wrath demonstrates that judgment isn't arbitrary passion but settled response to persistent rebellion.

Historical Context

Assyrian invasions brought mass casualties, with bodies left unburied. The ongoing 'stretched out hand' warned of worse to come if repentance didn't occur.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does understanding divine anger as settled disposition rather than emotional outburst affect our view of judgment?
2. What does the persistence of God's 'stretched out hand' teach about the thoroughness of discipline?

Interlinear Text

בְּעֵם	וְ	עַל	כֵּן	עָלָה	בְּרָה	אֲפָנָה	וְ	אֲפָנָה	וְ	יְהִי	הַ	יְהִי	הַ	בְּעֵם	וְ	
H5921	H3651	kindled	For all this his anger	H2734	H639	of the LORD	H3068	against his people	H5971							
										וְ	עַל	וְ	יְהִי	וְ	בְּעֵם	וְ
										וְ	הַ	וְ	הַ	וְ		
וְ	נִטְחָה									וְ	עַל	וְ	יְהִי	וְ		
and he hath stretched forth		but his hand		H5186	H3027		H5921	against them and hath smitten	H5221							
וְ	טְרִמָּה									וְ	עַל	וְ	יְהִי	וְ		
did tremble	them and the hills		H1961				H5038	and their carcases	H5478	פְּסֻחָה	וְ	בְּ	בְּ			
H7264	H2022															
וְ	חֹצֶץ	וְ														
of the streets	H3605	H2063	H3808				H7725	is not turned away	H639	אֲפָנָה	וְ					
H2351																
וְ	עַל	וְ	יְהִי													
but his hand		and he hath stretched forth		H3027	H5186											

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 10:4 (Parallel theme): Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isaiah 9:21 (Parallel theme): Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isaiah 9:17 (References Lord): Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

2 Kings 9:37 (Parallel theme): And the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

Jeremiah 4:24 (Parallel theme): I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.

Daniel 9:16 (References Lord): O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.

Psalms 18:7 (Parallel theme): Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

Jeremiah 16:4 (Parallel theme): They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

Nahum 1:5 (Parallel theme): The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

1 Thessalonians 2:16 (Parallel theme): Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.